1	2	3
9. Sh. K. Murlidharan G-5, Sai Krupa Flats, No. 927th Street, Nangallur, Chennai (Tamil Nadu)	29.05.2009	Chennai Tamil Nadu
10. Sh. M.S. Tatish, H.No. 5/2, 1st Floor, 9th Cross Kumarapark West, (Near Railway Parallel Road, BWSSB Water Tank, Bangalore (Karnataka)	29.05 2009	Bangalore Metropolitan Area Kamataka
11. Sh. Venkata Ramana Rao D.No. 1-104, Siva Sai Street, Kondapalli, Ibrahimpatnam Mandal, Distt. Krishna (Andhra Pradesh)	29.05.2009	Kondapalli Village, Distt. Krishna (A.P.)
12. Sh. M.A. Majeed, H.No. 9-15- 182, Malapally Street, Distt. Nizamabad, (Andhra Pradesh)	14.07.2009	District Nizamabad (A.P.)
13. Sh. Naveen Kumar Ruhalla C/o Harbans Lal Malik, H.No. B-149, Avas Vikas Colony, Opp. Hari Mandir, Saharanpur (U.P.)	23.07.2009	District Saharanpur U.P.

Judges in High Courts

2494. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the High Court of Jharkhand and of other States are having full strength of Judges and if not, by when it would be filled in, State-wise;

(b) whether there is any move by Government to reduce the time of vacations in various courts; and

(c) if so, the details of planning to bring down the backlog of pending cases in various courts?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) The approved strength and vacant posts of Judges of various High Courts is given in the Statement (*See* below). It is not feasible to indicate a time frame for filling up all the vacant posts.

(b) The Government has addressed all the High Courts requesting them to fix the period of vacation in such a way that the number of working days of High Courts generally do not fall below 222 days in a year.

(c) Various steps have been taken to bring down the backlog of pending cases. These include periodical monitoring of pendency position in courts, grouping of cases involving common question of law, increasing the Judges' strength, organising Lok Adalats at regular intervals, setting up of Family Courts, Labour Courts and Fast Track Courts, computerization of courts, etc. Alternative modes of dispute resolution such as mediation, conciliation and arbitration have also been encouraged. The Gram Nayayalayas Act, 2008 has also been enacted which provides for establishment of over 5000 Gram Nayayalays and will bring justice to the doorsteps of the people rediding in the rural areas.

Statement

The approved strength and vacant posts of Judges of various High Courts

Sl.No.	Name of the Court	Approved strength as on 21.07.2009	Working strength of Judges as on 21.07.2009	Vacancies as on 21.07.2009
1	2	3	4	5
1	Allahabad	160	85	75
2	Andhra Pradesh	49	29	20
3	Bombay	75	66	9
4	Calcutta	58	41	17
5	Chhattisgarh	18	10	8
6	Delhi	48	44	4
7	Gauhati	24	21	3
8	Gujarat	42	27	15
9	Himachal Pradesh	11	10	1
10	Jammu & Kashmir	14	11	3
11	Jharkhand	20	14	6
12	Karnataka	41	37	4
13	Kerala	38	33	5
14	Madhya Pradesh	43	37	6
15	Madras	60	56	4

1	2	3	4	5
16	Orissa	22	16	6
17	Patna	43	23	20
18	Punjab & Haryana	68	46	22
19	Rajasthan	40	29	11
20	Sikkim	3	3	-
21	Uttarakhand	9	8	1
	TOTAL :	886	646	240

Pending cases

†2495. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of pending cases in the lower courts of the country, State-wise;

(b) the increase in the number of pending cases in these courts during the last five years;

(c) the action plan of the Ministry to dispose of these pending cases;

(d) the reasons for slow disposal of the pending cases; and

(e) whether additional courts are being set up to dispose of the pending cases?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) As per the reports received from the Registries of the High Courts, 2,66,50,467 cases were pending in the Subordinate Courts as on 31.12.08. The State-wise number of pending cases in Subordinate Courts is given in the Statement (*See* below).

(b) As per the information available, the pendency of cases in Subordinate Courts has increased from 2,29,62,632 at the end of the year 2003 to 2,66,50,467 at the end of the year 2008 *i.e.* the increase of 36,87,835.

(c) to (e) Some of the main reasons for pendency in Subordinate Courts as identified by various Commissions and Committees including the Law Commission are given below:

(i) Population and Litigation Explosion.

(ii) Institution of fresh cases.

(iii) Inadequacy of Judges' strength.

(iv) Delays in filling up of vacancies in the Subordinate Courts.

(v) Inadequacy of staff attached to the Subordinate Courts.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.